

Welcome to the CASA Forum!

We wanted to create a way for CASAs to share resources, information, post needs, and anything else that one CASA might want to share with or ask a group of CASAs. The goal is for all CASAs to sign up on our private forum & discussion page with their CASA email address, and then let the information flow!

There are many resources on the CASA LA homepage, so this forum & discussion board is slightly different. For example, you'll see categories on the right-hand side of the page – "General, Camps, Services, LGBTQ, Transitioning Age Youth, Needs, School" - use these categories to post about a great camp you found, or a non-profit that will help with clothing, or if your child needs a laptop, or if you found a group that will help a child who is aging out find an apartment – the list is endless! The hope is that other CASAs will share their ideas and research, and we can all help one another out.

Technical Support: Technical support (lost passwords, changes to your account) is provided by Muut.com. If you have questions about how to use the database, please contact the forum I thin

Administrators: This page is moderated and administrated by Lynne Gabriel, director of training and volunteer relations; lgrabriel@casala.org and Rachel Quaintance, CASA volunteer; rquaintance@advocatecasala.org.

What is appropriate to post?

- Resources, information, continuing education events, needs, and questions that are relevant to your CASA case!
- Information that helps another CASA volunteer find a resource or get support on their case.

Examples:

"I found a great camp for children who identify as LGBTQ youth. www.bravetrails.org"

"My child is entering 12th grade and doesn't have a laptop. Does anyone know of an organization that gives laptops?"

"I'm going to ask my supervisor, but can anyone tell me what to expect at the first IEP meeting? I'm nervous because I haven't been and I'm a new CASA. Will there be a lot of people there? The child? Thanks!"

As a reminder:

Always do your own research: Some programs services, etc. may be no longer available, is incorrect or outdated. The opinion of another CASA should not constitute as research as the services and programs may or may not be appropriate for every child/youth.

What is **not** appropriate to post?

- Profanity, unprofessionalism, discriminatory language, rudeness, name calling and arguing.
- Debates surrounding personal beliefs and opinions.
- Personal/identifying information about your child/youth.
- Self-promoting posts
- Fundraising posts (for your youth or any other cause)
- Negativity directed at your CASA youth, CASA staff, another CASA or the CASA program¹

Examples:

“Hi CASAs! I’m an actor and am doing a really amazing play in Hollywood about the struggle of being a homeless youth in Los Angeles. Tickets are only \$15! Hope to see you there!”

“My kid is terrible. I can’t wait to be done with him. He is flunking out and doesn’t listen to anything I say”.

” My kid, Marky Green (age 15, currently living at Hillside) is in huge need for a new backpack. Does anyone know where we can get a nice one for free?”

“I don’t agree with how my supervisor edited my court report. She doesn’t know anything! Is anyone else having the same problem with their supervisor?”

Community Guidelines

In registering for and using the CASA Forum, you agree to adhere to the following community agreements. If you are found to violate any of these agreements or engage in inappropriate use of the forum, this may result in you being removed from the CASA Forum and/or further disciplinary action by the CASA program. The administrator(s) of the site will consult with a CASA employee about any questionable posts, links, responses, et al before any CASA is removed.

- Follow the above recommendations of which posts are appropriate/not appropriate to post on the CASA Forum. If you’re questioning whether to post something, ask your CASA supervisor, or email the administrator of our forum.

- Remember that we are all volunteers and doing our best, please be respectful and thoughtful in your communication on the CASA forum, even if you disagree with others.
- Profanity, unprofessionalism, discriminatory language, rudeness, name calling and arguing will not be tolerated.
- Think before you post and think before you reply!
- The posts and comments should always be in benefit to our children/youth.
- NO CASA will be held responsible if the recommendation, link, service, opinion they offered was sub-par, not available, not as described, but PLEASE do your best to post things that you have experienced, used, etc., that has been positive.
- The services, links, goods, information and everything else on the forum is in no way endorsed by CASA/LA, and should not be considered to be so.
- While the forum is linked through the CASA/LA page, CASA/LA will not be held responsible for any of the content, opinions, links, goods, or information on the site.

ⁱ If you have a concern about the CASA program, a CASA staff member or another CASA, please contact Maegan Mattock, director of advocacy at mmattock@casala.org